

November 2006

**Announcement of Response to Comments on A Regulatory Approach for Deriving Trichloroethylene Cancer Potency Estimates for Use in the Development of Health Based Remediation Closure Levels**

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), Office of Land Quality (OLQ) is releasing the “Response to Comments Received on ‘A Regulatory Approach for Deriving Trichloroethylene Cancer Potency Estimates for use in the Development of Health Based Remediation Closure Levels’.” The Response to Comments can be found in the “Recent Updates” section of the RISC Website, located at:

<http://www.in.gov/idem/programs/land/risc/index.html> .

Due to the complex and controversial science and regulatory issues surrounding trichloroethylene (TCE), IDEM posted the draft document “A Regulatory Approach for Deriving Trichloroethylene Cancer Potency Estimates for use in the Development of Health Based Remediation Closure Levels” in January 2006, which can be found at:

[http://www.in.gov/idem/programs/land/risc/docs/tce\\_final\\_draft\\_release\\_jan\\_4\\_06.doc](http://www.in.gov/idem/programs/land/risc/docs/tce_final_draft_release_jan_4_06.doc) . IDEM accepted comments on the draft document through March 17, 2006. IDEM would like to thank those who submitted comments and appreciates the opportunity to address the issues raised.

IDEM has evaluated those comments and after consideration, IDEM believes the slope factors proposed in “A Regulatory Approach for Deriving Trichloroethylene Cancer Potency Estimates for use in the Development of Health Based Remediation Closure Levels” represent the best choice for default toxicity information at this time. The new slope factors result in Default Closure Levels that are identical to those listed as “Trichloroethylene (TCE) (Proposed)” in the “Appendix 1 2006 Default Closure Level Tables” at

[http://www.in.gov/idem/programs/land/docs/risc\\_tech\\_guide\\_app1.pdf](http://www.in.gov/idem/programs/land/docs/risc_tech_guide_app1.pdf) .

The 2006 Appendix 1 TCE values listed as proposed will now become the default values. The TCE Default Closure Levels are listed in Table 1 below.

**Table 1: TCE Default Closure Levels**

	Soil			GW Default Closure Level mg/l	Indoor Air
	Soil Direct mg/kg	Migration to GW mg/kg	Default Closure Level mg/kg		Chronic
					Ug/m3
2006 Residential	4.9	0.057	0.057	0.005	1.2
2006 Industrial	24	0.35*	0.35	0.031*	7.9

\*These numbers reflect the non-carcinogenic end point, which results in a moderately lower closure level than the carcinogenic end point.

The science and regulatory issues surrounding TCE remain controversial. New EPA TCE guidance is anticipated in the future. When new guidance becomes available, IDEM will reevaluate the current toxicity values with respect to the new information and the agreed IDEM hierarchy of sources for determining toxicity values (available at [http://www.in.gov/idem/programs/land/docs/risc\\_tech\\_guide\\_app1.pdf](http://www.in.gov/idem/programs/land/docs/risc_tech_guide_app1.pdf) ).